

TeguTalk

Tegu Talk is a newsletter of Jim & Teri Riley, missionaries making disciples & edifying churches in & around Honduras, Central America.

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Man stands in his back yard 2 weeks after 2 hurricanes raise water up to his roof top twice!

Different Goals

The one sport that almost every Honduran young man loves to play is soccer. Jimmy plays many afternoons with the neighbor boys of *Crucitas* as well as one night most weeks with the young men in *Nueva Suyapa*.

Pray for Jimmy as he actively shares his faith in Jesus with these young men. He just baptized one of the boys from *Crucitas* and several of the young men from *Suyapa* have begun a discovery Bible study on another day of the week.

Two Ladies Teas

Las Crucitas Retreat Center

On October 7th and December 15th, God brought around 40 women to CRC for the women's first and second tea parties for this area near the retreat center. Jeni helped lead the fun games to help the women relax and have fun. I (Teri) taught about being a good friend and neighbor in the first tea and our next door neighbor, Tina (who has been a Christian for 28 years) taught in the second tea party about the birth of Jesus. In the first tea, we made bookmarks. In the second tea, the women made homemade Christmas sugar cookies. It was such a joy being with the women from three different areas of Tegucigalpa (*Promesas*, *Crucitas*, and *Suyapa*). The Gospel message was given in both teas. Please be praying that many of the women will become Christ followers in the near future.



Upstairs at C.R.C.



Sara

In Season & Out

Río Sabaeuante, near CRC

Hostir, age 10, has been going to Jimmy's children's club almost since its beginning. After over a year of teaching, Jimmy is starting to see the fruits of his labor as Hostir decided to follow Jesus in baptism on November 16th. Hostir is a neighbor living about three blocks away from CRC. We are really excited about how God is going to use young Hostir to win his family for Christ.

Ezekiel, in junior high now, has been attending *Roca de Refugio* (Rock of Refuge Christian Church) since he was around three years old. He was baptized on November 3rd.

Sara, age 17, was baptized on November 14th. She has also been attending *Roca de Refugio* but just this past year. She is already serving on Sunday afternoons with the Children's church as a leader, guiding children from one classroom to the next in the weekly rotation. We pray for these three, young people as they begin this, the greatest journey of walking with Christ.



Ezekiel

Drama @ Christmas

Roca de Refugio, Tegucigalpa

What were we going to do? It was the Sunday morning before Christmas. Our entire team of mostly new teachers and helpers were in a panic. We had a perfect storm of 60 kids for a program designed for about 30 to 40. Some of these kids hadn't been to church in a while and had no idea what we were going to do. Some were there for the first time. Only around 25 had shown up for our dress rehearsal the week before. Now what?



We divided all the "extras" up into shepherds, sheep and angels and told them to watch and follow the others' lead. Standing back stage, I looked as the curtains opened and there next to some of the *RdR* faithful members were parents who had come to see why their kids were so excited to go on Sundays. Pray with us that we can take the Gospel into many of these homes. God pulled it together once again!



Children's Bible Club

Promises de Padre, near CRC

Jimmy has done an amazing job working to provide a spiritual education for a group of neighborhood kids. This year he had some sashes made to attach badges. The students could earn badges for memorizing one verse, five verses, ten verses, or a whole chapter. There are also badges for Sunday attendance, leadership, evangelism, good behavior and service. Many of the children really applied themselves and soon had a chest full of awards! More importantly they have come a long way in their knowledge of God's Word and God's Son.

Hospitality & Covid 19

Las Crucitas Retreat Center

Like many people on the planet these days, we are surprised to not have come down with a case of Covid 19. In a way it would be easier for us to have it in our rear view mirror so to speak. What's puzzling is that we are not going to any extremes like we were at the beginning, and there are still many cases in and around the country. We do take some precautions.

Most of our US teams and many of our camps and retreats have been cancelled. Yet for the last few months we have had a steady stream of visitors including family, church members and friends.

We want to thank God for His protection and pray for all those suffering from the disease and the "lockdowns." Pray for leaders and Christians everywhere that we all would know how to proceed with ministry, outreach and hospitality.



AHA Men's Retreat

Las Crucitas Retreat Center

Hurricane Eta hit Honduras just ahead of the already rescheduled holiday week. We were more than ready to hold our mens' retreat but postponed it to the next week. The government finally canceled the holiday altogether but we went forward with our retreat for those who could make it. God sent a dozen guys ages 12 to 72 to join Jimmy and I here at the CRC where we managed to hold a significant men's retreat.

We based the teaching on Kyle Idleman's book "A.H.A." and the story of the prodigal son. "A.H.A." stands for *awakening, honesty* and *action*. We learned that for spiritual change to happen, we all need an *awakening*, we all need to be *honest* with ourselves, and we all need to take *action*. In addition to the spiritual aspects of the three day, two night retreat, we managed get these mostly city guys down to the water falls, up and over a small mountain and out to play capture the flag and other games in the forest.

As in most of our retreats we worked on transparency and confirming God's call on each person's life.



Fun at the falls



Hiking in the mountains behind C.R.C.



6:00 am Hike to the falls



God's People's Hurricane Response

San Pedro Sula, La Lima, Choloma, Cofradia...

Two hurricanes days apart left thousands of families struggling to recover. Our churches, pastors and missionaries banded together to try to make a difference in this desperate situation. One of the first things we did was to send some funds to local pastors in three communities on the north coast. We also had the privilege to take 26 boxes of Bibles to the missionaries to distribute. The Bibles were the legacy of one special brother who had ordered them long before the hurricanes. (His widow was thrilled that the Bibles went to those in such need of God's hope.) God's people in the US also sprang into action. Our supporters and others moved by the great need sent generous gifts that have made much of this outreach possible.

In La Lima next to the International Airport, the water came into the homes four times. Near *Choloma* houses had been completely covered by the rivers backing up. The water stayed in some homes for over three weeks. After the water went down in December, many families were still living with family members or public schools that are still closed due to the pandemic. Before they could begin to re-build their lives, they needed to get the mud, debris and mold out of their houses. We sent two teams from *Roca de Refugio* to join with other missions and Christian churches to help clean dozens of homes using shovels, wheel barrows, power washers and brooms. In the *Chamelecon* neighborhood our team shoveled an 18 inches thick layer of mud out of three homes. In other places we were able to clean several homes in a day. Another thing that these families needed were beds since almost all mattresses along with furniture were ruined in the flood. We purchased wood and 77 foam mattresses, partnering with two different pastors to provide 15 single beds and over 25 bunk beds. We also have given food and clothing to families affected by the hurricane here in Tegucigalpa. Our next project is to provide doors and door frames to families who are returning to their homes.

While I imagine life for the brave people of the North Coast will eventually get back to normal, I hope the lessons learned and friends and memories made by our team members will last for a life time. God bless those still suffering and those who continue to serve them and to bring them the Good News.



- Wisdom and guidance for these difficult days.
- Three new Christian youth (Hostir, Ezekiel, Sara)
- Suyapa de Corea, a pastor's wife in San Pedro that is very sick with covid 19. She is now hospitalized.
- The pastors who do the follow up on the relief work.
- All that have been affected by the pandemic, the hurricanes and government "lockdowns."

Please praise the Lord with us for:

- Our ministries to children are showing fruit.
- Two safe productive trips to San Pedro.
- Health and energy to continue serving!
- Our children: Jessica, Jennifer, Joshua and Jimmy.
- Our 1st grandbaby to be born in April Lord willing.

Support Team

Checks for the work can be made out to Nortonville Christian Church with Honduras Mission in the memo and sent to:

Nortonville Christian Church
PO Box 347
Nortonville, Kansas 66060

Thanks for Reading! By staying in touch, praying & sharing, you play a big role in what we do. Here's to what God will do in all our lives in 2021!

Jim & Teri Riley